

# SD1

Managing Northern Kentucky's  
Wastewater and Storm Water



## Call for Help

Private property owners are responsible for maintaining their private sewer laterals, but SD1 can help determine if the main public sewer line is contributing to a problem. If you see a pavement failure, building sewer backup or overflow, call SD1 at 859-578-7450 to request a check of the public sewer pipe.

If SD1 determines the issue is not related to the public sewer line, you will need to call a licensed plumber to investigate your lateral. If the defect is in the lateral below the public roadway, the following requirements must be met to qualify for SD1's lateral repair program:

- The owner of the roadway (city, county or state) must have agreed to participate in the program.
- You must provide SD1 with conclusive evidence, including a plumber's video recording, showing that the problem is below the public roadway and cannot be fixed through routine maintenance.
- Your plumber must locate the problem using a "locating device" and clearly mark the location on the surface of the roadway with spray paint or another appropriate material.
- Before SD1 can respond, the private property owner must sign an agreement holding SD1 harmless from any litigation resulting from the lateral repair project.

If you believe you qualify for SD1's private lateral repair program, you should call 859-578-7450 to request service.



## Choosing a Plumber

If you need a plumber, consider these tips for choosing a service provider:

- ▶ Be sure the plumber you hire is licensed and carries full insurance that protects you and your neighbor's property in the event of a catastrophe.
- ▶ Ask for and check references. Remember a business's longevity does not always guarantee quality service.
- ▶ Ask for a flat, fixed quote so you know exactly what you will pay.
- ▶ Get more than one bid or quote for the job, but make sure you have a detailed comparison for the same service level.
- ▶ Ask about the company's guarantee. Is it money back? Is it limited in any way? Is it written on your bid or quote?
- ▶ Reference our online list of SD1 Certified Tappers. This list includes everyone certified to work close to or connect to the public sewer system. A Certified Tapper is not required unless work is near or requires a connection to the public sewer line. In any case, be sure to follow the tips above to ensure quality service.

For assistance choosing a plumber, call 859-578-7450. For more information about what to do in the event of a backup of sewage into your home or business, visit [www.sd1.org](http://www.sd1.org).



For more information about SD1's private lateral repair program, visit [www.sd1.org/PrivateLateralRepairProgram](http://www.sd1.org/PrivateLateralRepairProgram).

Sanitation District No. 1  
859-578-7450  
1045 Eaton Drive  
Ft. Wright, KY 41017  
[www.sd1.org](http://www.sd1.org)

## Maintaining Your Private Sewer Lateral



## Your Lateral Is Your Responsibility

Your private sewer lateral is the pipe connecting your home or business's plumbing to the public sewer system. Wastewater, the water flushed or washed down drains and toilets, is conveyed through your private lateral to the public sewer system, often located beneath the roadway, which carries it to a treatment plant for cleaning.

A damaged or malfunctioning sewer lateral can cause expensive, inconvenient and hazardous issues, including damage or sinkholes in the roadway above the lateral and sewage backups into your home or business. These issues can be a risk to public health and safety. Unfortunately, all cleanup and repair costs are the responsibility of the private property owner.

## Protect Your Property and Wallet

You can prevent costly damages and repairs resulting from faulty sewer laterals by ensuring a vertical pipe with a removable cap, called a cleanout, connects your underground lateral to the surface for quick and easy maintenance access. Keep your sewer lateral functioning and clear of clogs and debris by following these tips:

- ▶ Never pour fats, oils or grease down the drains in your home or business. These substances can harden in the pipes and clog them.
- ▶ Don't flush diapers, wipes or personal hygiene products, which can also clog the pipes.
- ▶ Never pour chemicals down your drains, as some household cleaners can corrode pipes.
- ▶ Don't plant trees or shrubs with deep roots near your sewer lateral, as the roots can grow into the pipes.
- ▶ Have your lateral inspected by a certified plumber to ensure it is not damaged, cracked or clogged.